WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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- 1. A telescoping protective cover for covering a shopping cart handle, comprising:
- a first elongated resilient tubular member having a first open end, an opposite second open end, and a radially outwardly extending first stop being formed adjacent said second end;
- a second elongated resilient tubular member having a first open end, an opposite second open end, and a radially inwardly extending second stop being formed adjacent said second end of said second member; and
- a third elongated resilient tubular member having a first open end, an opposite second open end, a radially inwardly extending third stop being formed adjacent said first end of said third member, and a radially outwardly extending fourth stop being formed adjacent said second end of said third member,
- wherein said second end of said first member is slidably received in said second end of said third member and said first stop cooperates with said third stop to prevent removal of said first member from said third member, said second end of said third member is slidably received in said second end of said second member and said second stop cooperates with said fourth stop to prevent removal of said third member from said second member, whereby said first, second and third members telescope to correspond to a width of a shopping cart handle to be covered by the protective cover.
- 2. The protective cover according to claim 1 wherein at least one of said first end of said first member and said first end of said second member includes a protuberance extending radially outwardly from said first end.
- 3. The protective cover according to claim 1 wherein said first, second and third members each have a longitudinally extending slot formed therein for passing the shopping cart handle.

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- 4. The protective cover according to claim 3 wherein said first, second and third members each have a pair of radially outwardly extending flanges extending along opposite sides of respective ones of said slots.
- 5. The protective cover according to claim 1 wherein said first, second and third members are formed of a plastic material.

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- 6. A telescoping protective cover for covering a shopping cart handle, comprising:
- a first elongated resilient tubular member having a first open end, a protuberance extending radially outwardly from said first end, an opposite second open end, a radially outwardly extending first stop being formed adjacent said second end, and a longitudinal slot extending a length of said first member;
- a second elongated resilient tubular member having a first open end, a protuberance extending radially outwardly from said first end of said second member, an opposite second open end, a radially inwardly extending second stop being formed adjacent said second end of said second member, and a longitudinal slot extending a length of said second member; and
- a third elongated resilient tubular member having a first open end, an opposite second open end, a radially inwardly extending third stop being formed adjacent said first end of said third member, a radially outwardly extending fourth stop being formed adjacent said second end of said third member, and a longitudinal slot extending a length of said third member,
- wherein said second end of said first member is slidably received in said second end of said third member and said first stop cooperates with said third stop to prevent removal of said first member from said third member, said second end of said third member is slidably received in said second end of said second member and said second stop cooperates with said fourth stop to prevent removal of said third member from said second member, whereby said first, second and third members telescope to correspond to a width of a shopping cart handle to be covered by the protective cover.

- 7. The protective cover according to claim 6 wherein said first, second and third members each have a pair of radially outwardly extending flanges extending along opposite sides of respective ones of said slots.
- 8. The protective cover according to claim 6 wherein said first, second and third members are formed of a plastic material.

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- 9. A telescoping protective cover for covering a shopping cart handle, comprising:
 - at least two elongated resilient tubular members, a first of said members having a first open end, a protuberance extending radially outwardly from said first end, an opposite second open end, a radially outwardly extending first stop being formed adjacent said second end, and a longitudinal slot extending a length of said first member; and
 - a second of said members having a first open end, a protuberance extending radially outwardly from said first end of said second member, an opposite second open end, a radially inwardly extending second stop being formed adjacent said second end of said second member, and a longitudinal slot extending a length of said second member,
 - wherein said second end of said first member is slidably received in said second end of said second member and said first stop cooperates with said second stop to prevent removal of said first member from said second member, whereby said first and second members telescope to correspond to a width of a shopping cart handle to be covered by the protective cover.
- 10. The protective cover according to claim 9 wherein said first, second and third members each have a pair of radially outwardly extending flanges extending along opposite sides of respective ones of said slots.
- 30 11. The protective cover according to claim 9 wherein said first, second and third members are formed of a plastic material.